

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A method for preparing transformed plants expressing thyroid stimulating hormone receptor (hTSHR) or thyroid stimulating hormone receptor-extracellular domain (hTSHR-ECD), which comprises the steps of:
  - (a) transforming plant cells with the following polynucleotide sequences:
    - (i) a polynucleotide sequence encoding hTSHR or hTSHR-ECD;
    - (ii) a promoter that functions in plant cells to cause the production of an RNA molecule operably linked to the polynucleotide sequence of (i); and
    - (iii) a 3' -non-translated region that functions in plant cells to cause the polyadenylation of the 3'-end of said RNA molecule;
  - (b) selecting transformed plant cells; and
  - (c) obtaining transformed plant by regenerating transformed plant cells.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said plant is *Nicotiana tabacum*, *Cucumis melo*, *Curcumis sativa*, *Citrullus vulgaris* or *Brassica campestris*.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said transformation is performed with an *Agrobacterium* transformation system.
4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the ~~*Agrobacterim*~~ *Agrobacterium* transformation system is an *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*-binary vector system.
5. (Canceled)

6. (Withdrawn) A transformed plant prepared by the method of claim 1 which expresses hTSHR or hTHSR-ECD.
7. (Original) A method for preparing thyroid stimulating hormone receptor (hTSHR) or thyroid stimulating hormone receptor-extracellular domain (hTSHR-ECD), which comprises the steps of:
  - (a) transforming plant cells with the following polynucleotide sequences:
    - (i) a polynucleotide sequence encoding hTSHR or hTSHR-ECD;
    - (ii) a promoter that functions in plant cells to cause the production of an RNA molecule operably linked to the polynucleotide sequence of (i); and
    - (iii) a 3' -non-translated region that functions in plant cells to cause the polyadenylation of the 3'-end of said RNA molecule;
  - (b) selecting transformed plant cells;
  - (c) obtaining transformed plant by regenerating said transformed plant cells; and
  - (d) recovering hTSHR or hTSHR-ECD from said transformed plant.
8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein said plant is *Nicotiana tabacum*, *Cucumis melo*, *Curcumis sativa*, *Citrullus vulgaris* or *Brassica campestris*.
9. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the transformation is performed with an *Agrobacterium* transformation system.
10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein said *Agrobacterium* transformation system is an *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*-binary vector system.
11. (Withdrawn) A transformed plant prepared by the method of claim 2 which expresses hTSHR or hTHSR-ECD.
12. (Withdrawn) A transformed plant prepared by the method of claim 3 which expresses hTSHR or hTHSR-ECD.

13. (Withdrawn) A transformed plant prepared by the method of claim 4 which expresses hTSHR or hTHSR-ECD.
14. (Withdrawn) A transformed plant prepared by the method of claim 5 which expresses hTSHR or hTHSR-ECD.